

CD 2009--61



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF MUSIC

Sunday, April 12, 2009
7:30 pm. Walter Hall. Free

University of Toronto Percussion Ensemble II

Directors: Adam Campbell and Michelle Colton

Performers: Bruce Chi, Jenn Collins, Dorian Cox, Stefan Kitai, J. Rafael Ponciano, Edna Teguibon

PROGRAM

Track	1	Rolling Walnuts	Traditional Chinese
	2	Guaguanco	Traditional Afro-Cuban
	3	Bembe/Ogun	
	4	Iyesa	
	5	African Sun Waik	Dan Moore
	6	Sunda	Anthony Genge
INTERMISSION			
	7	3 Songs for Percussion	Adam Campbell
	8		
	9		
	10	Out of the Mountain	Traditional Chinese Transcribed by Todd Rosendahl
	11	Marubatoo	John Wyre

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Rolling Walnuts is a traditional Chinese drumming piece that is played on farmer drums. The title comes from the Chinese tradition of gathering walnuts and placing them on the rooftops to dry. When the walnuts are fully dried, they roll off the roof to the ground. The six drummers create many different types of drum rolls throughout the piece resembling the sounds of the walnuts.

Guaguanco is a traditional Afro-Cuban song which is performed daily in Cuba due to the popular couples dance moves that go along with the drumming and singing. The male imitates a chicken, who is trying to get the attention of the female "hen".

Bembe/Ogun is a traditional Afro-Cuban song which will be performed in two sections. The first section demonstrates the drumming parts of *Bembe*. The players use sticks on the drums instead of hands, a good indication that the drumming patterns had a heavy African influence. The second section is the song, *Ogun*, accompanied by the bell and chekere.

Iyesa is a song which originated in West Africa. Iyesa is the name of a group of drums, a rhythm, and an organization in Cuba. Again, the drummers use sticks on the drums for this song.

African Sun Walk was composed by Dan Moore, professor of percussion at University of Iowa. The piece was premiered in 2006 by Todd Rosendahl and Michelle Colton. Today's performance is a Canadian premiere. The instrumentation is steel pan, marimba, and percussion. The steel pan player (Jennifer Collins) and marimba player (Stefan Kitai) each perform improvised solos in the middle of the piece.

Sunda for 6 percussionists was composed in 1989. The work is based on a rhythmic pattern or pulse which is repeated, as an ostinato, throughout the entire work. While the music goes through various changes of character and texture, these are unified by the continuous pulse. The title of the work refers to the music of Sunda which is the area which forms the western third of the island of Java. This Piece does not try to imitate this music in any way, but was inspired by its elegance and refinement.

3 Songs for Percussion was written for the University of Toronto Percussion Ensemble II and is dedicated to Bruce, Edna, Raf, Jenn, Stefan and Dorian. The piece is in three short song-like movements; Song 1 is an up-beat party tune; Song 2 is a more plodding, heavy and industrial melody; Song 3 closes the piece in a waltz-like style.

Out of the Mountain is a traditional Chinese drumming piece that is performed on three flower pot drums. Today's performance will be on Japanese taiko drums which resemble the look and sound of the flower pot drums. This piece features the center player, Edna Teguibon.

Marubatoo was originally written as a duet for Marimba and Tuba. The composition has been arranged several times, including this quintet version for 3 marimbas (with Bass marimba covering the original Tuba part), vibraphone and crotales. While touching on many styles of music, overall there is a great warmth and spirit the composer brings to this work.

Many thanks to everyone in attendance tonight. We appreciate your support. Enjoy the show!